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Inventor

Hans RÜCKERT et al

Patent App.

(US Nat'l phase of PCT/EP99/06257) Not known

Filed

Concurrently herewith

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BLADES FOR CUTTING MOVING WEBS OF MATERIAL

Art Unit

Not known

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1 through 7 without prejudice.

Add the following new claims:

8. A blade for cutting a moving material web with a

blade body that has a steel cutting edge, characterized in that at 2

least a surface of the cutting edge is coated by means of a plasma-

aided method with foreign ions to a depth between 50 μ m and 500 μ m. 4

The blade defined in claim 8\wherein the depth is

between 100 μm and 200 μm . 2

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